

# Key project features

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MINISTERIO DE HACIENDA Y FUNCIÓN PÚBLICA SECRETARÍA DE ESTADO DE PRESUPUESTOS Y GASTOS SECRETARÍA GENERAL DE FONDOS EUROPEOS DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE FONDOS EUROPEOS

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SLIDE 1

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- 1. Project objectives & activities
- 2. Partnership requirements
- 3. Project **finances**



# Project objectives & activities

SLIDE 3

# Project objective

Improve the **policy instruments** of the participating regions

- Public interventions at local, regional or even national levels can be addressed
- But at least **one** policy instrument per project must be an

Investment for jobs and growth goal programme

#### Project activities

- Exchange of experience & **capacity building** through identification and transfer of **good practices**
- **Pilot actions** possible from the start of the project or at midterm (but maximum one per policy instrument)

## What is a good practice



- A **policy-related** initiative
- Proved to be **successful** in a region
- Potential source of inspiration for other regions

# Example of a good practice



#### **Floating Photovoltaic Plant**

The idea was to minimise the costs of the agricultural activity and reducing the carbon emissions generated by one of the biggest irrigation communities in Spain (Mérida). Due to the lack of space, plant needed to be installed over the accumulation of a water pool. The PV panels produce energy pumping water to the top. The water reservoir above is used as a battery during the day and in the night or raining seasons will use the hydroelectric power.

**Total investment:** 744,695,23 €. 75% FEADER 25% Government of Extremadura, under the framework of aid for energy efficiency.

#### Evidence of success (2019) :

- Economic savings: 61.880 €/year.
- Energy savings: 640.000 kWh/year.
- CO2 emissions savings: 297 Teq(CO2)/year.

#### What is a **pilot action**



**Implementation-related** activities dedicated to **testing** a new public intervention approach.

Possible only under certain conditions:

- Clear contribution to policy improvements
- Clear interregional & testing character

# Example of a **pilot action**



#### Testing of newly created support model for CDR uptake in SMEs

P.I.: Strategic Cybersecurity Strategy of Catalonia (ES)

Jointly development of a support model for SMEs to assess CDR level, identify priorities/ areas of weakness and adapt internal organisation and use of digital technologies/data towards more responsible procedures. The involved regions identified this need during the application phase and decided to test the new model (CDR Europe). Should the pilot be successful, there would be the opportunity to financially and operationally strengthen the Safe Internet programme, in its specific line of action of CDRs for Catalan SMEs. In particular, there is the possibility to increase in the resources of the Safe Internet programme, to fund SME consultancy activities using the CDR model (as tested in the pilot). With successful results, the Agency would be able to request funding within the subsequent annual budget to take forward the service.

#### **Implementation** of activities

#### 2 phases over 4-year implementation

CORE	FOLLOW UP
3 years	1 year
Exchange of experience to achieve policy improvements	Monitor policy improvements

#### **Implementation** of activities

- Action plans only for regions which did not achieve results by end of core phase
- Some **flexibility** in the follow-up phase:
  - Up to each project to define the exact activities
  - Exchange of experience still possible

# Partnership requirements

#### Who is eligible?

- Public authorities
- Public law bodies (bodies governed by public law)
- Private non-profit bodies

### Policy relevance of partnership

**Policy responsible authorities** must be involved in the project:

- As partners for at least 50% of the policy instruments addressed
- As 'associated policy authorities' for the remaining policy instruments
- Creation of a **stakeholder group** in each region

#### What is an associated policy authority

#### Main features:

- Officially included in the application form
- No budget travel & accommodation costs covered by relevant project partner
- Declaration provided at the application stage
- Involvement regularly monitored during project implementation

# **Geographical** coverage

- Broad coverage required
- Mixed between more and less advanced regions





# B Project finances

# **Co-financing** rates

<b>Co-financing rates</b>	According to legal status or location
80% ERDF*	Public or public equivalent from the EU
70% ERDF*	Private non-profit from the EU
50% Norwegian funding	Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Norway (NO)
Swiss funding	Public, public equivalent and private non-profit from Switzerland (CH)

\* ERDF – European Regional Development Fund

#### Simplified financial rules

Cost categories	Simplification
Preparation costs	Lump sum €17,500
Staff	Fixed % of the real gross employment cost
Office & administration	Flat rate of 15% of staff costs
Travel & accommodation	Flat rate of 15% of staff costs (real cost reporting only in specific justified cases)
External Expertise and Services	
Equipment	
Infrastructure and Works	For pilots only

#### Plus:

- Simplified reporting, faster payments to projects
- Less control (sampling, risk-based verifications)

# Second call main features

#### 1<sup>st</sup> call key figures

#### From **5 April to**

#### 31 May 2022

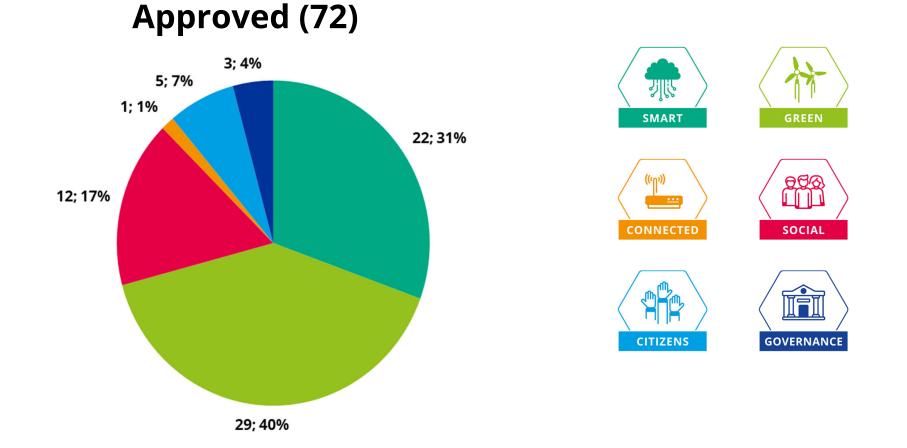
134	project proposals
1,073	partners coming from all partner states
EUR 1.4 million	average budget per project proposal
EUR 192 million	total ERDF budget requested

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#### First call success rate



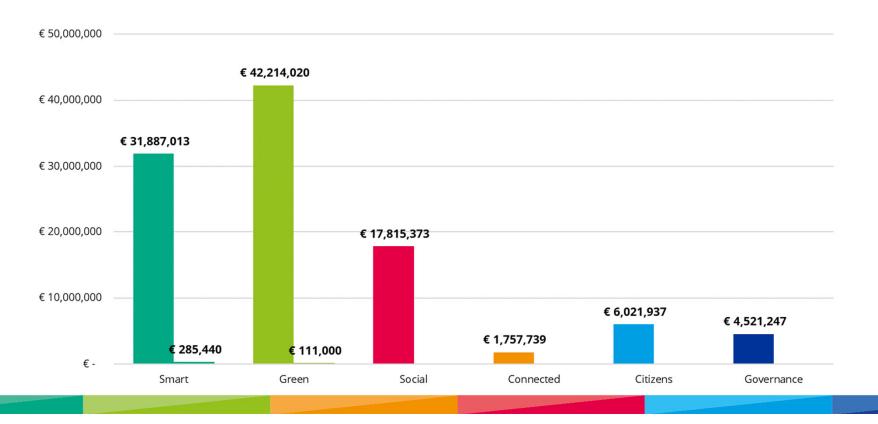
#### Overview per topics



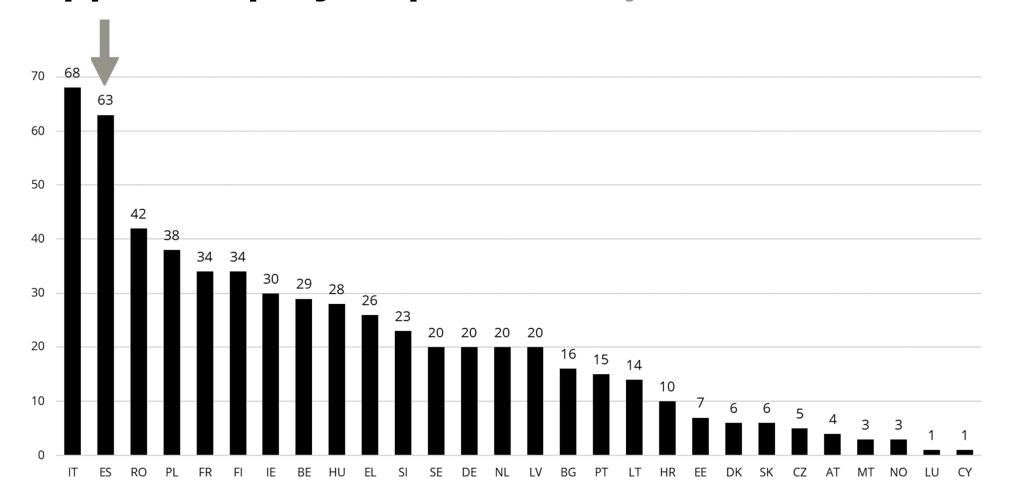
#### Budget in approved projects

#### **ERDF = MEUR 104.2**

#### Norwegian = EUR 396,440



#### Approved project partners by countries



#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Call main features

- 1. When? **15 MAR 9 JUN 2023, 12 noon** (CEST Paris time)
- 2. How much? Up to **130 MEUR** (up to 40% of the overall ERDF budget)
- 3. About what? All **topics** open
- 4. From where? All **corners** of the programme area



# Timing of **the call**

#### 12 weeks

Opening: 15 March 2023 (portal available)

Closing: **9 June 2023 at 12:00** CEST (Paris time)

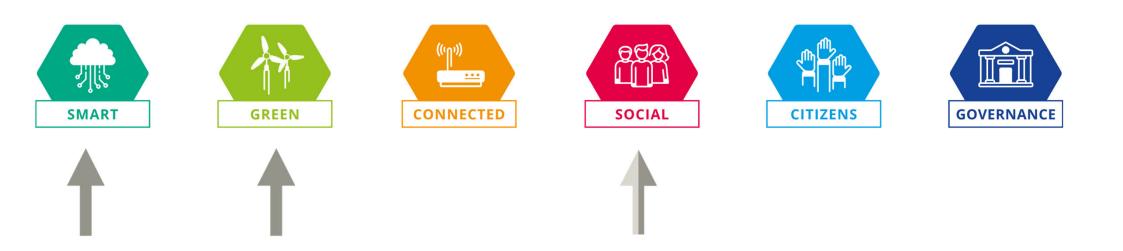
Decision: end of 2023

**Application pack** available on the programme website:

https://www.interregeurope.eu/apply-for-the-call#anchor-the-application-pack

#### **Topics** of the call

#### All topics open



**Concentration** principle (80%)





- **Research and Innovation** capacities, uptake of advanced technologies
- **Digitisation** for citizens, companies, research organisations and public authorities
- Sustainable growth and **competitiveness of SMEs** and job creation in SMEs, including by productive investments
- **Skills** for smart specialisation, industrial transition & entrepreneurship
- Digital **connectivity**





- **Energy efficiency** and reduction of greenhouse emissions
- Renewable energy
- Smart energy systems, grids and storage
- Climate change adaptation, disaster risk prevention, resilience
- Access to **water** and sustainable water management
- Circular and **resource efficient** economy
- Protection and preservation of **nature and biodiversity**, green infrastructures, pollution reduction
- **Sustainable urban mobility** for zero carbon economy





- Effectiveness and inclusiveness of **labour market**, access to quality employment, social economy
- Equal access to **health care**, health systems resilience, family-based and community-based care
- **Culture and tourism** for economic development, social inclusion and social innovation



- Accesses to education, training and lifelong learning, distance and on-line education and training
- Inclusion of marginalised communities, low-income households and disadvantaged groups
- Socio-economic integration of third country nationals, including migrants



- Climate resilient, intelligent, secure, sustainable and intermodal TEN-T
- Sustainable, climate resilient, intelligent and intermodal national, regional and local mobility



 Sustainable integrated territorial development, culture, natural heritage, sustainable tourism and security



#### 'Non-thematic' topics related to implementation of regional development policies

For example:

- evaluating and monitoring public intervention
- management of public procurement
- management of state aid
- management of financial instruments

#### **Innovative** character

#### What is the added value of your project?



# Geographical coverage

#### • Four areas to be covered

Geographical areas	Countries covered
North	Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden
East	Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia
South	Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain
West	Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland





# **Time for** questions



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